Myth I: Indiana's Education Agenda calls for the repeal of collective bargaining rights.

This statement is completely false. IDOE has not advocated for the repeal of collective bargaining rights, and our legislative agenda will not include language that calls for the elimination of collective bargaining rights.

Myth 2: Indiana's Education Agenda deducts money from teacher retirement funds to avoid further cuts to Indiana schools.

There is no truth to this statement. No one at IDOE has had a discussion surrounding this topic, and I promise no one will.

Myth 3: Indiana's Education Agenda mandates an evaluation system that will evaluate teachers based solely on students' ISTEP+ scores.

IDOE does not support evaluation tools that only take into account student performance on standardized tests.

Myth 4: Indiana's Education Agenda mandates equal percentages of teachers be placed into four performance categories during the evaluation process or places them into categories using a bell curve.

This is absolutely false. The IDOE advocates creating four evaluation categories for teachers and principals (highly effective, effective, improvement necessary, and ineffective). While teachers will be placed into categories based on several performance indicators, there is no model that mandates 25% of teachers be placed into each category.

Myth 5: Indiana's Education Agenda forces schools and school corporations to use a one-size-fits-all evaluation tool.

This couldn't be further from the truth. Indiana's Education Agenda aims to increase local control by allowing school corporations to use evaluation tools that work best within their school communities. IDOE will provide helpful guardrails that focus on educator qualities that drive student success. But there will not be a one-size-fits-all tool or rubric.

Myth 6: Indiana's Education Agenda reduces teacher salaries.

IDOE's legislative proposals do not aim to reduce teacher salaries. Rather, the proposals seek to enable local school corporations to set up systems to reward teachers for driving student growth. School corporations should have the opportunity to reward their best teachers, and the policies supported by IDOE will allow them to do so.

Myth 7: Indiana's Education Agenda takes tenure away from teachers who already have it.

There is no plan to take away tenure from teachers who have earned it under the current system.